JANUARY/FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

National Secretary:
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Hello there!

I am sure most of you are surprised to find that I haven't emigrated and that I am still in the land of living after not hearing from me for such a long time.

I must apologise for not sending out any newsletters since the August/September edition, but I was away ill for a couple of months, but now I am back and raring to go. One of the things on my New Years resolution list was to try and make this a better fan club and send newsletters out regularly. To help me do this I now have an assistant (not before time), her name is Theresa Daligan and she is 17 years old. Theresa is going to help me answer all your queries, so in the future you should get quicker replies to your letters.

Before I get on with the news I have a 'round' of thank yous to say. First and foremost - many, many thanks on behalf of all the boys and myself for the lovely presents you sent in. Also I would like to thank Jackie, Gloria and Penny for doing some of the work whilst I was away. I gather a few of you who wrote in asking questions only had a photo sent, well the girls have nothing to do with the fan club, and they did try!

So much for my permanent office. Guess what? You're right - I'm being moved yet again. I have been told this is the last move; it had better be, or someone who does the organising at Robert Stigwoods is going to get a bomb through the post!!! As I don't know the exact date we're moving you can start addressing your letters to: 67 Brook Street, London, W.1. now. This little place has been very homely, but I must admit that the Brook Street area is a bit more savoury than around here.

Such a lot has happened since I last wrote to you, but I will start at the beginning - Vince's departure from the group. Contrary to what the papers said, Vince did <u>not</u> argue with the boys, he just decided he wanted to play the type of music he really loves - blues. So he joined the group he discovered, Ashton, Dyke and Gardner. "I will never regret playing with the Gibb brothers and Colin" Vince told me, "They are brilliant musicians in their own right, but I just wasn't playing the type of music I wanted to. I know I am taking a big gamble leaving the group, but I had to make the break sometime, because I was becoming musically frustrated".

Although we will miss Vince I am sure you will all join me in wishing him all the best with his new group, and with their record which comes out this month. Oh he told me to tell you that you are all marvellous fans and that he loves everyone of you!!!!

Next on the list - Robins wedding. I think most of you knew it was going to happen sooner or later. Robin first met Molly when she was working at Nems. At Christmas '67 he took her to New York and it was there he popped the question. They had decided to wait a couple of years before getting married, but then they decided there was no time like the present, so they were wed. Molly wore a white coat and dress and beautiful white fur bonnet. The best man was Peter Edmondson, ex personal assistant to Robert Stigwood. I am certain Robin needs a woman to look after him so he doesn't forget recording sessions or have the same sort of accident he had with the eggs last year. Did I ever tell you about that? Well...Robin was busy cooking bacon and he went to the cupboard for eggs. He found he didn't have any, so he rushed out round the corner to try and get some. When he returned the door was shut and he didn't have his key with him. So, what did he do? He started to climb up the drain-pipe to his window, he nearly made it then he fell down into of all things - the dustbin!!! The result one bruised Robin, one smokey kitchen and one burnt frying pan!!!!

From some of your letters I hear that a lot of you fell of your chairs when it was announced on 'Happening for Lulu' that Maurice and Lu were engaged. Maurice and Lulu will be getting married at the end of this month or the beginning of March. It has not been decided whether the wedding will be in London or Glasgow. It's going to be a big white wedding with all the trimmings. I think there are going to be five bridesmaids one of which is Berri (Maurice's niece). Andy Gibb is to be page boy, and of course Robin best man.

For Christmas Barry and Colin went to Australia, with Linda and Joanne respectively. Barry went for two reasons, to get away from the cold and to seek out some groups. He has discovered two which he thinks have the possibility of becoming big. Colin just went to spend Christmas with the family and to introduce Joanne to all the relatives. Molly and Robin decided to have a late honeymoon and they went to Geneva for a few days. Maurice as usual stayed in good old England.

Barry seems to be having a lot of trouble just lately. Whilst he was in Australia he had £8,000 worth of jewellery stolen from his hotel room; and when he came back he had his £1,000 watch confiscated by the customs officer. Someone seems to have it in for the poor Lad!

On January 20th the boys started filming a spectacular with Tom Jones, which is to be screened in U.S.A. It is hoped that the spectacular the group did in France will be on our T.V,'s too.

February the boys new single 'The First Day Of April' coupled with 'Limelight'. Personally I prefer the 'B' side. At the end of the month there double L.P. 'Odessa' is due to be released - so start saving.

Between February and March the Bee Gees have got to find time to finish their German tour, which had to be cancelled due to Barry and Robin being ill.

March At the end of March it is now (almost) definite that the group will start filming for 'Lord Kitcheners Little Drummer Boys. (By the time they do start filming I should think they will be Lord Kitcheners BIG Drummer boys - joke!) The filming will take place in Spain, not in Africa as originally planned. As I always have to add - these plans are liable to changes, but honest I do try!

As so many of you have asked about MARBLES and their association with the Bee Gees, and as the trade papers have made it appear that there is a loss of friendship between the two groups we thought it would be a good idea to ask Trever and Graham for their comments:
TREVOR "I think the Bee Gees write superb songs - and the Gibb brothers have real song writing genius and we're very pleased they wrote two songs especially for us. I knew Barry and the twins in Australia and we were all great friends - we even appeared on television together".
GRAHAM Some of the musical press twisted statements we made, making us appear ungrateful for the Bee Gees help. It would obviously be silly for us to 'knock' the Bee Gees after they've written a hit song for us. We are looking forward to our next recording with Barry Gibb and feel sure he has another hit up his sleeve. We just hope we can give it our individual sound".

By the way, any of you have queries about the Marbles can write to Theresa or myself and we will do our best to help, until a fan club has been officially formed.

As I have told you so many times - don't believe all you read, because rumour has it now that Colin plans to quit the group. This is completely untrue. And also Barry will not be leaving until 1970 at least. If he does get film offers this year he will try and fit them in his holiday period. I hear sighs of relief all round!

In the last newsletter I was doing profiles on the group. I know that Robin, Molly, Maurice and Lulu must be very busy so I asked Mrs Gibb about her famous sons. Mrs Gibb is most definitely a very proud Mum. "I couldn't of asked for better boys" she told me, "I mean when they were young they were mischievious, but never really naughty. Mischievious? Must of been Maurice thought I.

"Oh dear no, Maurice was a little angel!! it was Robin who was the little monkey. He was always playing practical jokes (seems like the twins changed characters as they got older) and he had a great liking for fires, some of which got him into trouble. I can remember his last fire, he got loads of newspapers and lit them in the bedroom, luckily Hughie (Mr Gibb) smelt burning and went into the bedroom, the flames had just started to catch the sheets, after a mad dash we put the fire out; and after a good tanning from Hughie Robins delight in burning things soon went. I asked Mrs Gibb when the boys started to become interested in music, "Oh at a very early age, I think Barry was about eight when he started to write songs, and it wasn't long after that the twins chipped in too. I don't know what it was, but right from the beginning I knew they were different to the other children, they hardly played with the children from the neighberhood, if anyone did bring friends home it was Maurice. Although Maurice and Robin are twins it is really Robin and Barry who think on the same wavelength". Did she think the boys had changed since their success. "No, I don't think so, they are still the same down-to-earth type of boys I've always known. I think Maurice has changed a little, he seems to of grown up, he is much more contented to stay at home instead of raving it up somewhere, - I think that is Lulu's influence". According to Mrs Gibb it looks like another Gibb is going to follow in his older brothers footsteps as Andy hopes to play the drums! So, if you have any young sisters of about 8 to 10 years, it is more than likely that one of their idols will be Andy Gibb.

Susan Goldy has written to me, with what I think is a terrific idea. She wants you all to send her a photo of yourself which she will then stick in a book; when the book is completed it will be presented to the Bee Gees. If you like the idea then send your photo to: Miss S. Goldy, 5 Pollard Street, Bethnal Green, London, E.2.

Now I have Theresa here to help me I have decided to start a pen-pal club. All of you who are interested write in on a postcard stating your name and address, age and hobbies. By the way we have fan clubs in Japan, Poland Norway, U.S.A. Canada, Australia, Holland, so if you want a foreign pen-pal state the nationality and we will see what we can do for you. It may take some time, but we will fix you up eventually.

Well time to take my leave again. I am really sorry I haven't been able to tell you much, but I promise I will do my best next time. In the next newsletter I will get Molly to talk about Robin. So from Theresa and myself chiou for now - and tak care

Julie

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